

## The Alexandria Gazette

WEDNESDAY EV'G., DECEMBER 20.

## PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

**SENATE—YESTERDAY.**—Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois gave notice that he would at an early day, introduce a bill to extend the authority of the Freedmen's Bureau. A resolution was adopted instructing the Secretary of War to report to the Senate how many Major Generals were in the service and what they are all doing. A resolution to refer all papers relative to the so called Confederate States to the joint committee on those States was objected to, and went over. President Johnson responded to the resolution of inquiry concerning the Southern States by sending to the Senate the reports of General Grant and Carl Schurz. A short discussion ensued, in which Mr Sumner stigmatized President Johnson's introduction to the reports as a species of white-washing similar to that of Franklin Pierce during the Kansas troubles. He added that "in former times there was 'one Kansas, now there are eleven.'" A bill was introduced to establish an uniform system of militia throughout the United States; it was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**—A preamble and resolution were introduced by Mr. Farnsworth, of Illinois, setting forth that B. G. Harris, of Maryland was tried last May before a very respectable and intelligent Court Martial, and was convicted of giving aid and comfort to the public enemy, &c., &c., and closing by asking that his case be referred to the Committee on Elections, with power to send for persons and papers. The resolution was subsequently modified to refer the whole matter to the Committee on the Judiciary, and was then passed by a vote of 137 yeas to 21 in the negative. Mr. Washburne, from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the House bill to facilitate postal and commercial intercourse between the several States. [This bill strikes at the Camden and Amboy Railway and the Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway.] After discussion on the constitutional question involved in the bill it was forced through under pressure of the previous question. Mr. Woodson, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back the House joint resolution to amend the Constitution of the United States so as to declare "that no tax, duty or impost shall be laid, nor shall any appropriation of money be made either by the United States or by any one of the States thereof, for the purpose of paying, either in whole or in part, the war debt of the Southern States or any individual debts incurred in aiding the rebellion, and also providing that the above article shall be submitted for ratification to the Legislatures of the several States." It was forced through under pressure of the previous question, yeas 149 nays 11.

## SOUTHERN NEWS.

The small-pox is prevailing very extensively in various portions of the South. At Wilmington we learn that it is raging violently. It is also very prevalent among the negroes on the large Carolina plantations.

Great quantities of cotton continue to pour into Charleston.

No more important measure has yet been introduced before the Virginia Legislature than that presented by Mr. Ellis, of Norfolk, relative to the repeal of the Usury laws.

Major Overton W. Edwards, formerly of the Ordnance Department of the late Confederate Government, was arraigned before a special court of the Mayor of Richmond, on Monday, at two o'clock, to answer the charge of attempting to set fire to his wine and liquor store, Wall street, under the St. Charles Hotel, on Saturday night. The accused was represented as counsel by Mr. John S. Caskie, and attended by a large number of relatives and friends, who manifested much concern about the affair. During the examination he maintained great composure; but at its close, and while the counsel was addressing the Court, he frequently put his hands to his eyes and gave vent to emotions of humiliation and grief. He is a man upwards of fifty years of age, of good appearance, and, as the evidence of a number of witnesses shows, has always borne a good character. The Mayor sent the case on to the Examining Court.

The Chief Engineer of Military Railroads in this State, has received orders to turn over the Winchester and Potomac Railroad to R. Y. Conrad, the President, and its old Board of Directors.

A riotous disturbance took place in Norfolk, Va., yesterday, between the 20th New York regiment and the 30th U. S. colored regiment. A volley of ten or twelve muskets was fired by the 20th regiment upon the colored soldiers, who were about to return the fire, when their officers arrived and put an end to the affair, which at one time threatened to be very serious. One colored man only was injured.

The director of the mint has made for the Secretary of the Treasury specimens of double-eagles, eagles, half eagles, dollars, halves and quarters, bearing the motto, "In God We Trust." The Secretary, it is stated, approves the designs, and the coins named made hereafter will bear this legend. The smaller coins do not afford room for the words.

## VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

In the House of Delegates, on Monday, the unfinished business of Saturday was taken up, viz: The preamble and resolutions of Mr. Woodson, proposing a re-union of West Virginia with Virginia proper, the leading question being on referring the resolutions to a select committee. After discussion the resolutions were referred to a select committee.

Mr. Robertson of Alexandria, offered the following, as a substitute for Mr. Woodson's resolutions, which was referred to the same committee: "That forasmuch as the people of this State having ever felt and continuing to feel the most sincere affection for their brethren of West Virginia—the truest anxiety for establishing and perpetuating the re-union of the State, doth solemnly and confidently appeal to the like disposition amongst the good people of West Virginia, that they will concur with us in declaring, as we do hereby declare, every desire, as soon as practicable, to adopt proper measures of co-operation to re-unite and maintain unimpaired the original integrity of 'Old Virginia.' Resolved, That the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolution to the Executive authority of West Virginia with the request that the same may be communicated to the members of the Legislature thereof as early as possible."

**RICHMOND, December 19.**—In the Senate. Mr. Lee submitted a resolution committing the bill relative to the status of slaves and free negroes to the Committee on Courts of Justice, with instructions to revise every law now in force in relation to said classes, and to provide for the fullest, most exact justice and the amplest protection of the persons and property of men of color in all respects. Messrs. Lee and Gilmer advocated the resolution. It was adopted without opposition.

Mr. Bentley, from the Committee on Banks, reported a bill restraining the banks of the State from making any disposition of their assets until otherwise provided by law.

Mr. Lee, from the minority of the same Committee, reported a bill concerning banks of the State, and providing for the liquidation of their liabilities. Both bills were ordered to be printed.

MR. THADDEUS STEVENS delivered, on Monday, in the House of Representatives, it is said the most ultra radical speech yet put forth and his views will be and are adopted by a large party. He started out with the broad declaration that the States lately at war with the government were not in the Union, and that if they were admitted again they must come in as new States or conquered provinces after passing through a territorial condition. He elaborated the argument that the so-called Confederate States were belligerents, and that during the war, according to the decisions of the United States Supreme Court and international law, the respective parties "stood in the same relation to each other as if they were separate nations." Having conquered them as public enemies, he maintained that the government had the right to treat them as conquered provinces. Among the requirements which he advocated as precedent to the readmission of these States was the amendment of the constitution so that there could be an election for President and a representation in Congress on the basis of population. This, by recognizing the colored people of the South, would give the new States an increased representation in Congress. If the present basis were not changed, he charged that the democrats would soon lay hands on the White House and the halls of Congress, that they would therefore repudiate the federal debt and assume the rebel one! In such an event he claimed "that if the Southern States should then repudiate the constitutionally forced upon them, it would be right and just."

He proceeded to assume that Congress should control the freedmen, for if left to take care of themselves their present condition would be worse than bondage or the horrors of Andersonville. He made light of the ratification of the constitutional amendment abolishing slavery, by the Southern State legislatures, which he denounced as illegal and delusive, and declared that this was not a white man's government, and looked upon Chief Justice Taney's virtual declaration that it was as the most infamous doctrine of all time! He added that it was fortunate that the whole question of restoration belonged to Congress.

A dispatch from Washington to the Philadelphia Ledger says that Secretary Stanton has again tendered his resignation to the President, and this time, it is said, insists upon its acceptance. Mr. S. is now on a visit to Ohio.

Mr. Miller, of Pa., will soon introduce in the House a bill to ascertain the practicability of having steamboat navigation from the Chesapeake bay at the mouth of the Susquehanna river, to Lake Ontario.

The city of Richmond, Va., seems to be infested with burglars and thieves.

Senator Nye, of Nevada, will introduce in the Senate, in a few days, a bill to repeal the city charter of Washington.

Some of the Chicago speculators in the wheat market have come to grief. The table of mortality is large, and though no harm can be wished to any individual, yet the public have no general sympathy with the unfortunate.

A new "oil strike" has been made in Western Virginia, on the property of the Burning Springs Oil Wells Company of Baltimore.

A fire at Owensboro, Ky., on Friday, consumed a block of buildings occupied as business houses. Loss about \$230,000.

At the Grand Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia, held in Richmond, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

M. E.	George W. Dame, of Danville.	Grand High Priest
"	Edward H. Lane, of Louisa.	King
"	John P. Little, of Richmond.	Scribe
"	Thomas U. Dudley, "	Treasurer
"	John Dove, "	Secretary
"	Robert E. Withers, Danville.	Capt. of Host
"	Benjamin M. Harris, Richmond.	P. Sojourner
"	Joseph H. Cooper, Petersburg.	R. A. Capt.
"	Wm. H. Lambert, Alexandria.	M. 3 Vail
"	H. Hultwaeker, Portsmouth.	M. 2 Vail
"	S. Kennerly, jr., Staunton.	M. 1 Vail
"	J. L. Burroughs, Richmond.	Chaplain
Comp.	R. D. Sunxy, "	Marshal
"	Thomas Angel, "	Junior

**WORK FOR ALL.**—A Georgia editor says: "It is a much more vital question in the South whether the whites will work than whether the blacks will refuse to labor. The loudest and noisiest blatherskites about the constitutional laziness and persistent indolence of the negro, are stout young white men who loaf about the corners, with their hands in their pockets, chew tobacco, and drink bad whiskey, while their mothers keep boarding-houses to pay family expenses and keep up appearances." There is too much truth in the above. We must all work.—[Rich. Sentinel.]

It was stated by Mr. T. E. Lloyd, President of the Board of Aldermen, in his remarks upon the subject of negro suffrage, in the Washington City Council at a late meeting of that body, that the most of the negroes who went from the District of Columbia into the army "were taken possession of by men of their own color," and sold into the service of the United States," and it was added by Mr. Gullick that "many of them were credited to the State of Massachusetts."

At the recent joint session of the American Freedmen's Aid Commission, and the American Union Commission, held in New York, it was unanimously voted to unite the two commissions in one. Bishop Simpson was chosen President of the new united commission; Dr. Thompson, Vice President; J. R. Shepperd and Mr. Abbott, Secretaries.

The loss to steamboat property in St. Louis, by the ice on Saturday, including cargoes, is about \$250,000. Insured for about \$160,000. The ice gorged again on Saturday night and has not since moved. Another crash is looked for at any moment.

J. R. Crawford was frightfully burned by benzine, in New York yesterday, which took fire while being drawn from a cask. He ran into the street all in flames, presenting a horrible sight to the public, and was finally saved from burning to death by being rolled in the mud.

The Virginia Legislature, on Thursday, the 21st, takes a recess until the third of January next.

The ladies of Baltimore have presented the wife of Gen. R. E. Lee, with a lot of handsome furniture for her residence at Lexington.

Another stay law, brief but comprehensive in its provisions, was yesterday passed in both Houses of the Legislature. This bill, it is understood, is designed for the temporary purpose of staying proceedings at law for the collection of debts until the main bill with details shall have been matured.

## GOLD.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Gold, 146½.

**COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE.**—By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Alexandria County, Va., rendered at the November term, 1865, in the suit of Edward Evans, et al., vs. David Evans, the undersigned, as commissioner therein named, will sell at Public Auction, in front of the Mayor's Office, in the city of Alexandria, at 10 o'clock, a. m., on TUESDAY, the 26th day of December, 1865, the following described property:

No. 1. A LOT OF GROUND, on the west side of Columbus street beginning 56 feet 8 inches south of Gibbon street, thence westwardly 113 feet 5 inches to a 20 feet alley; thence southwardly 18 feet 4 inches; thence eastwardly 113 feet 5 inches to Columbus street, thence northwardly 18 ft. 4 in. to the beginning.

No. 2. A LOT OF GROUND adjoining No. 1 on the south, and fronting on Columbus street 30 feet, and extending westwardly the same width, 143 feet 5 inches to a 20 feet alley.

Terms of sale:—One-third cash on the day of sale; the remainder in two equal payments of 3 and 6 months, with interest from the day of sale, to be secured by notes with approved security, and the title to be retained until all the purchase money is paid; or all cash at the option of the purchaser. GILBERT S. MINER, dec 20—eots Commissioner.

ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 18th, 1865.

THE partnership existing between GEO. K. WITMER, and GEORGE WASHINGTON, under the name of WITMER & WASHINGTON, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. Either party is authorized to receipt or arrange any business belonging to the late firm. G. K. WITMER, dec 20—tf GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, (successor to Witmer & Washington), will continue the AUCTION AND COMMISSION BUSINESS, and will give his particular attention to the sale of all COUNTRY PRODUCE, and fill all orders for GROCERIES, GUANO, &c., upon the most favorable terms. Office—No. 8, Union st., up stairs. dec 20—tf

**TURKEYS FOR RAFFLE.**—A RAFFLE for TURKEYS will commence to-night, and will continue nightly, during the Holidays, at No. 30, North Royal street. CHARLES A. KELLEY, dec 19—3t Proprietor.

The Directors of the Virginia and Tennessee R. R., have declined to entertain to proposition for a consolidation with the other two roads of the South-side. At a meeting just held, they unanimously adopted resolutions declaring their purpose to adhere to the policy of neutrality towards all connecting works enjoined upon their company by its charter; and objecting to consolidation, among other reasons:

"Because the plan proposed would involve their road in a policy of discrimination against the interests of the canal, of the Orange and Alexandria, the Central, the York River and the Richmond and Danville railroads—works in which the Commonwealth is much more largely interested than in the South-side and the Petersburg and Norfolk railroads; and also against the interests of the cities of Richmond and Alexandria, which are as much entitled to the support of the Virginia and Tennessee road as Norfolk and Petersburg."

The first forty miles of the Union Pacific railroad west of Omaha was finished yesterday. The track to Fremont, eight miles further west, will be finished at the end of this week.

## "RED HILL," AND "THE MUSH POT," FOR SALE.

The undersigned has been authorized to sell the Valuable Property known as "Red Hill," consisting of FIVE ACRES OF LAND, improved by a new and elegant two-story FRAME DWELLING, containing ten rooms. This property is about the half of a mile from the Corporation limits of the City of Alexandria—on one of the highest elevations west of the city, and commanding an extended view of the Potomac River and the surrounding country, from the City of Washington to Fort Washington, eight miles below the city of Alexandria. The dwelling is commodious and convenient, erected in the year 1860, of the best material, with two porticos, and every convenience desirable.

Also the Tract of Land so well known as the "The Mush Pot," lying between the City of Alexandria and "Red Hill," and containing THIRTY-THREE ACRES OF LAND, noted for its extreme fertility. The proprietor wishing to dispose of the above mentioned properties, an excellent opportunity is offered to those desirous of investing in real estate in the neighborhood of Alexandria.

Only one-fourth of the purchase money will be required in cash, and the deferred payments will be made to suit the purchaser.

If these properties are not sold before the first of January next, they will be offered for rent.

For more particular information, apply to

H. O. CLAUGHTON,

Attorney at Law and Land Agent,

59, Prince street,

dec 16—tf

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS,** such as Pearl and Inlaid Shell Card Cases, Morocco Bags; Kid, Silk, Thread, Buckskin and Morocco Purses, Silver Wire Portmonaies, Cabs, Scrap, Autograph and other Albums, Ladies' Shell-handle Penknives, Morocco Writing Cases, Portfolios, Paperies, Chessmen, Parlor Games, Parlor Balls, Beautiful Annuals or Gift Books, Ivory Tablets, Cigar Cases, Beautiful Ball Pins for headresses, Shell and other Tuck and Side Combs, Finger Brushes, Scrap Books, Porcelain Slates, Hat Brushes, Gold Pens, Propeller Pocket Pencils, Guitars, Violins, Flutes, Baptist, Meth. & Presbyterian Hymn Books, Pocket Bibles and many other article scan be had very cheap for cash at

JOHN H. PARROTT'S,

Auction and Commission Store,

de 16-1w\* Cor. King & Water sts.—up stairs.

**MASON'S** unrivalled Sugar, Soda, Water and Pic Nic Crackers, for sale at factory prices by THOMAS PERRY, dec 12

## REMOVAL.

We, herewith, take pleasure to inform our customers, and the public in general, that we have removed from No. 130 to No. 222 King street, between Columbus and Alfred, where we offer our entire stock of BOOTS AND SHOES from now until the first of January, at a reduction of 25 per ct., which will give a chance to every one to secure good bargains.

FREITAG & CO., No 222, King st., bet. Columbus and Alfred. dec 9—1m

## CHARLES WHITTLESEY, ATTORNEY AT LAW, AND CLAIM AGENT.

Attends to law business in this and adjoining counties, and District of Columbia; also, pays particular attention to Collection of Claims of all kinds against the United States, including Pensions, Back Pay, Bounties, Prize Monies, &c.—Address by letter, (stating claim,) or call at his office, over the market, Alexandria, Va. oc 30—1f3m

**ROBERT L. WOOD,** Successor to Ashby & Wood, continues to carry on the DRY GOODS BUSINESS.

At the Old Stand, No. 170, King street. ALEXANDER H. SLAYMAKER (now with R. L. Wood) would respectfully solicit the patronage of his friends.

Our STOCK is at all times large and complete, embracing, Heavy and Fine French Broad-cloths, Black and Fancy Casemeres, Satinets, Cloths for servants, &c., &c.

A full assortment of Flannels, white and colored, Fine and medium quality Dress Goods, a full assortment of Mourning Dress Goods, Irish Linen, "warranted genuine," Linen Sheetings and Pillow Case Linens, Superior Cotton Shirting and Sheetings; also, Gloves and Hosiery, Suspenders, Shirt Bosoms, Collars, Cravats, Neck Ties, Hair Nets, &c., together with a general assortment of first-class DRY GOODS, to an examination of which we invite our old friends and the public generally.

dec 14—3m

**FOR RENT.**—One of the ROOMS on the first floor of the GAZETTE OFFICE, fronting the street—a valuable stand for business. Enquire at this office. dec 15—1w